WHAT DID SOCCER ACHIEVE IN THE '70s?—P.6

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RED STAR OPEN GALA YEAR

What promises to be the greatest international season in Australian soccer history has got under way with the curtain-opening visit of the Yugoslav multiple-champions Red Star Belgrade.

Brought to Australia by the enterprising Adriatic Trade & Tourist Centre, Red Star—Fudbalski Klub Crvena Zvezda—will play in Adelaide on Wednesday night and in Sydney on Sunday late afternoon.

Last Sunday in Melbourne, less than two days after their arrival from frozen Belgrade, they lost 1-2 to Victoria.

Beaten finalists in the 1979 UEFA Cup (against Borussia Monchengladbach), Red Star have a superb record in top European soccer.

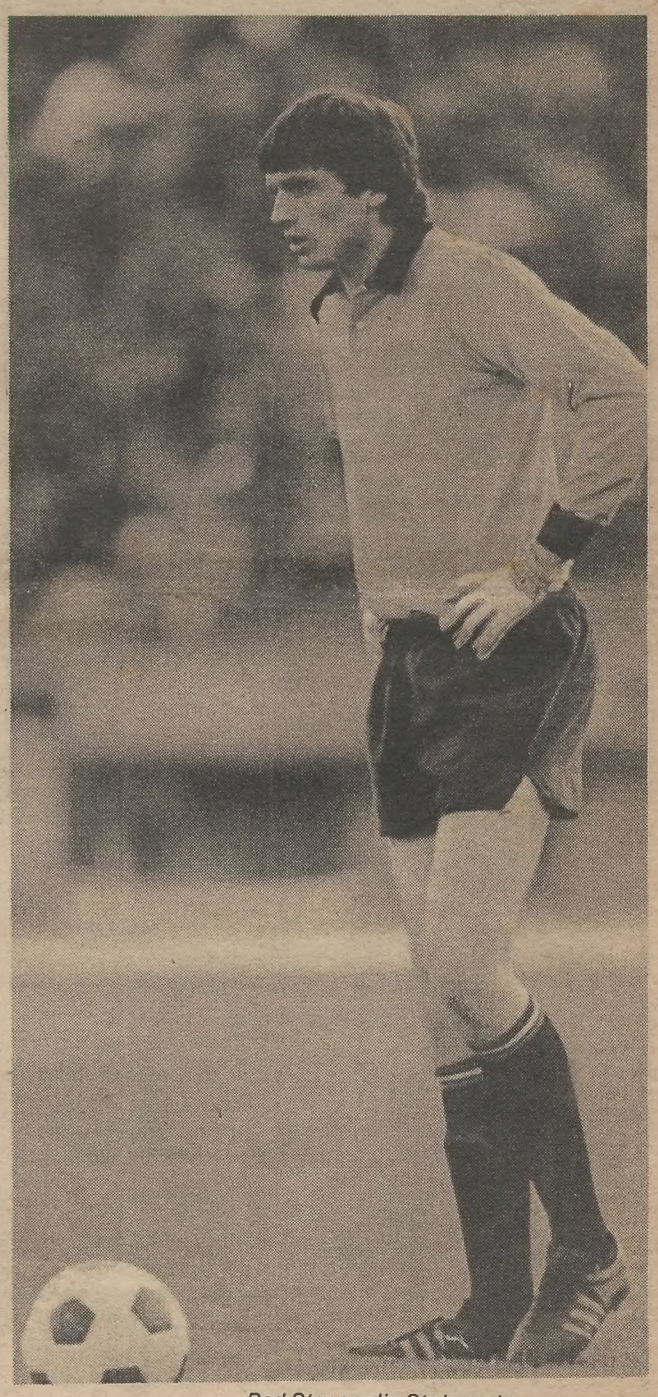
This is their third visit to Australia since 1977 and if they bring the same class to their game as they did before, the predictably large crowds will go home satisfied, regardless of the results.

The year 1980, on the whole, will be cram-packed with internationals.

Next week Czechoslovakia—the current European champions—arrive for a five-match tour, then in the July-August period we will see England, Wales, Ireland, Yugoslavia, Bayern Munchen and perhaps a top South American team.

So if soccer is your game, count your blessings: this will be a year to remember.

• *Turn to page 3 for all about Red Star.*



Red Star goalie Stojanovic.

Support the company that supports soccer

Czechs coming !

If ever a touring team came to Australia with the deadliest intentions, it will be Czechoslovakia.

The current European champions will arrive on January 23 for a five-match tour, three against the Socceroos.

They will be led by the same Joe Venglos who, in the early 1960s, successfully coached Sydney Prague and was also, for three internationals against Scotland, in charge of Australia.

Venglos will use the Australian tour to prepare his players for their great program in 1980.

"You can tell the Australian soccer public that we will take every minute of our stay in Australia seriously, " he said in Prague this week.

"I will take 18 players, the very best we have.

"I asked for this tour because I know that Australian conditions are ideal for our preparations."

The Czechoslovak team will return home on February 14 and the local championship resumes 10 days later.

"On the Australian tour I want to find my ideal line-up," said Venglos.

"From March we will have an immensely difficult schedule.

"We will play friendlies in Switzerland and Spain, then we will meet Hungary in Prague in an Olympic elimination match which we must win to reach Moscow.

"Our last preparatory game will be in Ireland.

"After that, the players will have a rest—one week—and on May 24 we go into a training camp in the High Tatra mountains.

"Our team will leave for Italy on June 7 for the European Championship finals.

"We won the title in 1976 in Belgrade, so for us it's 'noblesse oblige;' we must defend it.

"The spadework for this will be done in Australia."

AMPOL CUP ON JAN 30

Sydney Olympic's battles against Croatia, Monaro and Sutherland will be the highlights of this year's Ampol Cup, due to start on January 30.

Relegated from the PSL, Olympic have vowed to make every post a winner in their bid to gain readmission in 1981.

The final of the Ampol Cup will be played on March 21, probably at the Sportsground.

These are the four groups, from which, after a round-robin, one team qualified for the semifinals:

GROUP A	GROUP C
1. Croatia	1. Sutherland
2. Ku-ring-gai	2. Parramatta
3. Wollongong	3. Manly
4. Mv. Olympic	4. Olympic
GROUP B	**GROUP D**
1. Yugal	1. N.S. Inter
2. Bankstown	2. Avala
3. Auburn	3. Arncliffe
4. Monaro	4. Melita

• **Next week: Full draw.**

2 TO 6

Conducted by Val Hokin and Emmanuel Kanna

***Yagoona** (2nd div.) A great deal of time and money have been spent by Bankstown Council on improvements to O'Neill Park. New lighting has been installed, playing areas have been top-soiled and in some parts re-turfed and there has also been a great deal of landscaping done. The committee has re-appointed Russell Haggett as first grade coach for the 1980 season. The acquisition of numerous players will mean competition for places in the team will be extremely keen. However, a lack of players under 18 is causing some concern. The past two years have been a little disappointing for Yagoona but for the 1980 season the committee remains quietly confident that this could prove to be the best year for the club.*

★ ★ ★

***Guildford County** (2nd div.) have re-appointed Mal O'Neill as club coach for this coming season with Tom Campbell as the club's second grade coach. Don Hokin will again take up the position of manager. Training has got under way, on Wednesdays and Fridays with the first trial match scheduled for 9am Sunday January 27 against Arncliffe Scots.*

★ ★ ★

***Liverpool Rangers** (6th div.) having achieved Federation status, will strive to fulfil the honor of their acceptance. The club is undergoing a re-building program throughout, from under 6 to all age. Over the years much pride has been taken in the royal blue and white teams and the 1980 season will hopefully fulfil all expectations. The committee will be making a final selection from nominations received for the position of coach in the next two weeks or so. Club secretary is Mrs.Bohanon.*

★ ★ ★

***Guildford County** (2nd Div.): Results of the club's Festival of Nations K.O. competitions, conducted during October and November last year were:*
Shield semifinals: Fairfield RSL (2) d. Liverpool Utd. (1); Chullors (2) d. Parramatta Hellas (0). In the final, Fairfield RSL (2) d. Chullora (1). The consolation Cup finalists were Nth.Rocks (2) defeating Smithfield (1). In the Round Robin competition the winner was Ashcroft with the runner-up being West Ryde Rovers.

★ ★ ★

***Queen's Park** (2nd Div.) held their AGM last November and it was resolved to re-name the club Queen's Park Eastern Suburbs Soccer Club, subject to approval by the NSW Federation. The senior sub-committee office bearers for '80 are: President, J. Eve; Vice-President M. Cronshaw; Secretary Rita Miller; Registrar J. Horrigan and Publicity Officer F. Rosner with four committee men: J. Eve jnr., J. Zammit, M. Horrigan and J. Erickson. The club has appointed Ray Thomas, a Welshman, ex-Capetown (Sth.Africa) as first and second grade coach for 1980 with Joe Zammit as third grade coach. Training will commence on January 29 at Queen's Park, Darly Road, Randwick until April when Lyne Park, Rose Bay will be ready after returfing. The venue for home matches will be Erskinville Oval. The club's first social has been arranged for Saturday, March 8 at the Clovelly RSL Club. With a stronger committee and a much stronger financial standing, the club expects a more successful season for 1980. Club spirit is not only high within the committee but also throughout the playing ranks.*

★ ★ ★

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(subsection of the German Concordia social club in Stanmore) seek the services of

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RANDWICK BOTANY POLICE BOYS' CLUB

1979 Premiers of Combined 15-16 competition, reached 4th round of Champion of Champions.

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Club training commences on February 1, first trial game on February 17.

This is a ready-made team full of potential, requiring a first class coach.

All details — phone Mr. Robertson 666 6043.

NSW CLUBS TOOL UP FOR BIG '80 SEASON

— By Paul James —

Premiers Croatia underwent a major coaching change during the off-season, with the loss of highly successful coach Ati Abonyi to Melita.

Abonyi himself said the switch was carried out on peaceful terms, and there was no animosity between himself and Croatia.

"I felt that there was nothing left for me to do with Croatia — except if they had been accepted into the Philips League.

"But in the State League we were the champions, had won the Grand Final and it would no longer have been a challenge, but rather more of a struggle to live up to past glories," Atti said.

At the committee level the club also underwent some changes.

Former hardworking president Tony Basic is now club secretary, taking the place of energetic club stalwart Peter Lukunic who has heavy business commitments this year.

New president is Ivan Spehar, with Ivan Bozicevic as vice president and Tony Topic as treasurer.

The new coach is Zdenko Kafka, formerly a player with Dynamo Zagreb and Velez Mostar in Yugoslavia.

"He has had experience as well as a trainer in Yugoslavia, Germany and Austria, and we are hoping his experience will add a new dimension to the team and keep us in the premier position," Tony Basic said.

"Our playing staff has not changed much, except for the loss of Atti.

"At present we are negotiating for a couple of new players, but apart from them we will rely heavily upon players already established in the first team," he said.

"Our new ground at Edensor Park is ready for matches, and finally we will have a home ground we can call our own and develop for our own needs.

"At present there are no stands, but the hills have been graded for better viewing, and an amenities block has been completed.

"Eventually a stand will be built over the dressing room complex, but that is a long term project," he said.

MELITA

"We tried to rest up completely from soccer during the off-season, and we are only now getting back into the swing of things," said Melita president Emmanual Said.

"Our biggest 'scoop' during the break was the signing of Atti Abonyi as our manager-coach.

"We agreed with him that he would not be a player-coach, something I think he had already decided upon anyway.

"Our committee is very keen on Atti's ideas about the game, and we are confident he can recapture our old style of playing the ball which our fans love and which has won us praise in the past," he said.

"Atti doesn't want to go into the transfer market yet until he has the opportunity to see all our players in action a few more times.

"He said there is no point buying a player for a particular task when that player could well be in another position or in the lower grades.

"We have two players from last year who we are uncertain about.

"Both Bobby McPherson and Brian Parker are still overseas and we haven't been able to talk to them about new contracts.

"Richard Yamine is still training with St.George, but we haven't finalised terms for any transfer either.

"We will probably move to our own ground this year, in the Chester Hill area, but there are still a few hitches before we get final approval to develop it," Emmanuel added.

"The playing surface is excellent, which will suit our style of play, while it is also less 'hemmed in' than Garside Park, and it is just as easily reached as Garside," he said.

Emmanuel also said Melita was negotiating with a potential sponsor, another insurance company.

"At present we can't release the name, but if it comes off then it would be a substantial amount which would help us tremendously," he said.

MANLY

"We had mixed fortunes over the off-season," said Manly president George Dick.

"On the plus side we received news from the Planning and Environment Commission that our plans for re-zoning Cromer Park were approved.

"We needed this so that we could go ahead with our aim of building a club house inside the confines of Cromer, right next to the ground.

"On the negative side, we have lost our regular centreback John Dick.

"He has been transferred to Perth by his company for at least two years - something which we couldn't foresee or prevent.

"As has been our policy for several years now, we are not going into the transfer market, but instead we will go through our crop of second and third graders and see which ones are worth a first team place.

"We are a district club and we believe in giving the boys a fair chance, and in return they have given us loyal service.

"Most of the players on the transfer market are no better than our own players and the market in my opinion has become grossly over inflated recently," George said.

"On the coaching side, Max Walker has had to relinquish the first team job because of work pressure.

"In his place Terry Stone has taken over," George said.

"Terry was our second grade coach last year and has looked after the thirds as well at one stage, so he knows the club fairly well.

"Before the start of the season we should have extra seating at Cromer Park, while the field itself is in the best shape ever," George said.

"We hope to have final approval for the construction of the clubhouse by April and then we will start building by about June.

"The clubhouse will give us a solid financial base and from there, hopefully, we will flourish," he added.

ARNCLIFFE

Arncliffe Scots are determined never to allow themselves to fall into the same position they were in last year when it needed a do-or-die battle with Yugal in the last match to decide which club was relegated from the State League.

During the off-season the Scots committee has been busy with the cheque book, signing up five new players.

Both Alan Ainsley and Paul Lucket from Sydney Olympic will be a tremendous asset to the team.

Ainslie seems to get better as the years go on, while Luckett was one of Olympics better players.

Also signed is Steve Montgomery from Auburn. A fine striker, he was a prized possession at Auburn and will be a plus to the Scots forward line which has often suffered from a lack of finishing power.

Ralph Ramage has been signed from first division Blacktown United, while the fifth new face will be Rothmans Player of the Year John Lee from Bankstown.

Club publicity officer Dave Dorian says the club was quite unashamed in going into the transfer market.

"We tried to rely too heavily last year on young players," he said.

"In a position where we were battling, we needed experience.

"We will have that now, and we don't intend to battle ever again," he said.

"We have retained Jim Gallagher as our coach from the end of last season.

"Jim knows the club fairly well, having been with us in second division and State League for spells," Dave added.

On the committee side there have been a few changes.

Hard working Dave Dorian is the new PR man, with Wal Fraser taking over a secretary.

Max Player remains as president while Dennis Earl is treasurer.

The club will again play home matches at Hurstville Oval, but in the meantime will continue looking for an alternate ground.

"Hurstville Oval is a council ground and as a result we are unable to carry out any improvements we would like," said Dave.

SUTHERLAND

"Each year we hear complaints about the length of the season and each year things change very little," said Sutherland coach John Watkiss.

"At least this season all Ampol Cup matches will be at night, but I still feel we start the season far too early.

"For the players and management it seems like only yesterday that we were preparing for the Grand Final.

"Our first team squad at present is similar to last season's, though it could change markedly over the next few weeks.

"Several players haven't re-signed and if they don't they will be placed on transfer.

"We have already lost Peter Beggs to St.George and I hope we don't lose too many others.

"During the Ampol Cup I will probably blood some of the youngsters from the second team, just to see what material I have to work with during the year.

"Our aim will be to be up in the top four again this year, but I don't think the club is seriously considering PSL just yet.

"The general feeling is that we must work harder to get a wider local support and improve the club's finances before we can consider aiming for the PSL," he said.

"On the personal front, I have said I will continue playing if and when I am needed by the team.

"If the situation arises where I can be of use to the team then I will play, but otherwise I will remain on the sideline," he added.

MONARO

Things have been less than peaceful in Queanbeyan over the holiday break with the 'cool' relationship between Inter Monaro and Canberra City flaring up over the Giampaolo-Valeri 'transfer' issue.

Inter's Secretary Tony Reale said this week there were several points which he felt must be cleared up.

"A lot of people seem to think the two players have signed for Canberra," he said.

"But this is not true, and they are still registered as our players.

"They will only become Canberra City players when we receive payment for them."

The reported figure being asked by Monaro for the two players is $28,000 for Giampaolo and $24,000 for Valeri.

The matter will go before the ASF appeals committee on January 22 where hopefully it will be clarified and all accusations from both parties will be resolved.

Tony said the committee of the club had not changed since the end of last season, though there were a few minor alterations to the structure of the club.

On the players front, captain Alan Bourke has yet to re-sign with the club.

"Naturally there is a great feeling within the club that Alan should rejoin us after our triumph of last year," Tony said.

"The future of Tony Morsello is also a bit cloudy, because he has work commitments in Sydney.

"Our goalkeeper Laurie Palec is also uncertain whether he will play, but is keen to stay on as a goalkeeper coach.

"And our much respected coach Frank Maccarone is again in charge of the team," he said.

• ***Preview continued next week.***

SOCCER WORLD

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THIRD VISIT BY RED STAR

Red Star Belgrade, joint leaders at the halfway stage in the Yugoslav first division, are on their third visit to Australia in three years.

They toured here early 1977 when they beat Australia 3-1 on three occasions.

Then they came back later in 1977 for an international tournament with Arsenal and Celtic — and beat Australia again, this time 3-2.

Their present visit was arranged and is sponsored by Adriatic Trade and Tourist Centre, in co-operation with various State Federations.

They played their first match last Saturday night at Melbourne's Olympic Park, against Victoria, less than 36 hours after arrival in Australia.

On Wednesday, January 16 they will play South Australia in Adelaide at Hindmarsh, followed by Sunday's game in Sydney against NSW.

The tour will end in Perth on Sunday week, January 27.

Red Star was founded in Belgrade on March 4, 1945.

It is considered to be the most successful and most popular club in Yugoslavia.

Two extensive polls conducted by various sports writers through Yugoslavia indicated Red Star had the majority of supporters.

Out of 67.989 replies to the poll, 22.653 soccer lovers voted for Red Star.

Since 1976 Red Star has had on 29 occasions over 90.000 spectators attend their new stadium popularly known as "Marakana".

When Red Star participates in any international or derby match, the entire one million population of Belgrade celebrates.

Red Star is by far the most successful club.

It has won the national championship 12 times and the Yugoslav cup nine times.

It has never been in the bottom half of the ladder which is considered to be a record in Yugoslavia.

Since its inception almost 35 years ago, Red Star has played 2,000 matches.

Red Star has more players who have become legends either in Yugoslav or international soccer than any other club in Yugoslavia: Rajko Mitic, Dragoslav, Sekularac, Dragan Dzajic, Vladimir Beara and Bora Kostic, to mention just a few.

In the European Cups, according to the number of matches played, Red Star is the third most successful club in Europe.

Red Star has played in the final of the UEFA Cup on one occasion (last year), once in the semi-final of the European Champions' and once in the Central European Cup.

It cannot be imagined that the Yugoslav National Team does not consist of players from Red Star.

Last year Yugoslav soccer had its best season ever: the year the national team went undefeated and, in the rankings the prestigious "France Football" of Paris, was the top team of Europe in 1979.

Yugoslav players are in huge demand all over the world.

Only a week ago Manchester United signed, for $600,000, Red Star fullback Nikki Jovanovic.

One is genuinely amazed how the Yugoslav national team can be Europe's No. 1 with so many stars playing abroad and not being considered for international honors.

There is Bogicevic with Cosmos, Oblak with Bayern, Buljan with Hamburg, Curkovic with St.Etienne, Glavovic and Senzen with 1860 Munchen, Dzoni with Schalke, Popivoda in Braunschweig, Stepanovic with Manchester City, Holcer in Stuttgart, Bjekovic in Nizza, Keri in Los Angeles.....and the list goes on and on.

One wonders just how strong Yugoslavia would be if some of these highly paid world stars would be still eligible for the national team.

The Red Star team which played in last year's UEFA Cup final, from left, at the back: Jovanovic, Stojanovic, Miletovic, Muslin, Jurisic, Jovin.-In front: Blagojevic, Milovanovic, Savic, Borovnica and Milosavljevic.

AMPOL

BELGRADE ACES BRING TOP TEAM

This is the full complement of the Red Star party:

Aleksandar Stojanovic, Zivan Lukovcan, Milan Jovin, Dragan Miletovic, Djordje Milovanovic, Cvijetin Blagojevic, Zoran Filipovic, Nedeljko Milosavljevic, Srebrenko Repcic, Dusan Nikolic, Srboljub Stamenkovic, Zlatko Krampotic, Zdravko Borovnica, Dusan Savic, Vladimir Petrovic, Ivan Jurisic.

Last minute additions to the squad were Igraci, Djurovski and Mitrovic.

Borovnica will be remembered here, having played a number of PSL matches after the 1977 tour with Footscray.

Brief details about the leading players:

ALEKSANDAR STOJANOVIC
(goalkeeper)
Born in 1954, began his career playing for "SC Radnik" from Kragujevac. He joined Red Star in 1974 and is now a regular first team player for SC Red Star for which he has played 189 matches. For the Yugoslav national team he had played on six occasions and for the junior national team he has played 12 matches.

MILAN JOVIN
(fullback)
Born in 1955, joined Red Star from Zrenjanin and has developed into a good player.

DRAGAN MILETOVIC
(central stopper)
Born in 1956, came to SC Red Star from Novi Pazar; considered to have enormous potential. He has played 62 matches for Red Star.

DUSAN NIKOLIC
(midfield)
Born in 1956. He has a relatively long service with Red Star. Presently he is displaying great form, he is one of the best players in Red Star. He has played 299 matches for the club and has played four times for Yugoslavia.

VLADIMIR PETROVIC
(midfield)
Born in 1955, he is a regular with Yugoslavia and has played 22 matches for that team. He is an excellent game organiser and a good striker. He is considered as one of the best players in Yugoslavia.

DUSAN SAVIC
(central striker)
Born in 1955, he is an exceptional goal-getter who is always guarded by two opponents. It is rare for him not to get a goal in a match. Last year he was proclaimed as the best striker in Yugoslavia. Has played 302 matches for Red Star and 12 for Yugoslavia.

ZORAN FILIPOVIC
(striker)
Born in 1953. He has played 444 matches for Red Star and 14 for Yugoslavia. He came to Red Star from Pozarevac 10 years ago.

SREBRENKO REPCIC
(striker)
Born in 1954. He has played 38 matches with Red Star. He arrived six months ago from Sarajevo and is now a first team player. He is the replacement for the legendary Dzajic, not only in Red Star but in the Yugoslav national team.

Red Star's ace goal-getter, Savic.

Red Stars '77 version

These were the Red Star teams which played here against Australia in 1977:

3-1, Sydney: *Stojanovic (Kajganic), Jovanovic (Ajder), Novkovic, Muslin, Radovic, Bogicevic, Lukic, Nikolic, Savic (Calasan), Baralic (Krmpobic), Stamenkovic (Bobic). Goals: Bogicevic (2), Savic, Abonyi.*

3-1, Sydney: *Kajganic (Stojanovic), Jovanovic, Babic, Muslin, Radovic, Bogicevic, Lukic (Mendic), Nikolic (Adjer), Savic (Krmpobic), Baralic, Stamenkovic (Calasan). Goals: Calasan (2), Jovanovic; Harding.*

3-1 Melbourne: *Kajganic, Jovanovic, Bobic, Muslin. Radovic, Bogicevic, Lukic. Nikolic, Savic, Baralic, Stamenkovic (Ajder). Goals: Jovanovic, Bogicevic, Lukic; Kosmina.*

3-2 Melbourne: *Stojanovic, Jelicic, Jovanovic, Muslin, Nikolic, Bogicevic, Petrovic, Novkovic (Susic), Savic (Lukic), Filipovic. Goals: Savic, Susic, Filipovic; Kosmina, Harding.*

RED STAR TOUR

- Wed, Jan.16, Adelaide v South Australia (Hindmarsh,8pm)
- Sun, Jan.20, Sydney v N.S.W. (Sportsground, 6pm)
- Sun, Jan.27, Perth v Western Australia (Perth Oval,5.30pm)

KICK OFF IN 1980 WITH TOP INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

RED STAR

(BELGRADE)

Yugoslavia's leading club

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ASF OUTLINES GROWTH PLAN

One has many reasons for facing the soccer 1980s with cautious optimism.

Last week, at a low key media function in Sydney, ASF president Sir Arthur George indicated that more than $1 million would be available for soccer, through eight various sponsors.

Only one company is known: Coca Cola, heavily committed with the 1981 World Youth Cup finals and with the Socceroos' 1982 campaign.

The other seven will be announced "some time in March."

These are excerpts from the official announcement:

"The Australian Soccer Federation's major marketing and promotional programme is designed to make soccer Australia's Number 1 sport within three years.

"The programme will be implemented in conjunction with an international marketing programme linking all the world's top soccer events. These will include:

•The European Champions' Cup and European Cupwinners' Cup for 1980, 1981 and 1982.

•The European Championships to be held this year in Italy.

•The F.I.F.A. World Youth Championships in 1981.

•The World Cup in Spain in 1982.

"Under the programme, Australian soccer will benefit from massive financial and promotional support.

"The programme was outlined by Sir Arthur George, President of the A.S.F. and Patrick Nally, Group Managing Director of the West Nally Group.

"The promotional programme, named Intersoccer 4, was created by West Nally in conjunction with the Interpublic group - the world's largest marketing communications organisation.

"Intersoccer 4 has contracted to supply a limited number of large international non-competing world marketers, an unprecedented advertising and marketing programme which will reach a total world T.V. audience of some 8 billion viewers over the next three years.

"Australian Soccer will receive the financial support which is a prerequisite for Australia to secure a place in the World Cup finals when the world's top 24 teams play for the World Cup in Spain in 1982.

"But perhaps even more importantly the programme will be the start of a massive marketing effort to support soccer's bid to become Australia's leading national sport.

"Included in the programme will be the recruitment of a top marketing man, a full-time press and public relations officer, and support staff.

"Next year, Australia will be host to the biggest international sports event the country has seen since the Olympics in Melbourne in 1956: 15 of the world's greatest soccer nations will send teams to The World Youth Championships for The Coca-Cola Cup - an event to be staged throughout Australia in October, 1981.

"Following the success of the recent Cosmos Tour, the A.S.F. will also bring to Australia a number of top-class national teams over the next few years. The current European Champions, Czechoslovakia, will be here at the end of this month.

ESPAÑA 82

COPA MUNDIAL FIFA

"The national squad of England will play in Australia for the first time on June 1, at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

"This match will commemorate the centenary of soccer in Australia. In June, a competition will be staged between the national team of Australia, Wales, Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

"Longer term aspects of the programme envisage the development of the Philips Soccer League into a professional league along the lines of those in the U.S.A.

"These plans and agreements are currently being finalised.

"At the same time, the A.S.F. is also anticipating major changes in the T.V. field.

"Discussions are currently under way with a number of networks regarding a long-term commitment to the sport.

"The A.S.F., under the new FIFA rules, is able to co-ordinate all top-class soccer programmes coming into Australia.

"In addition to the support being given by West Nally and the formation of the marketing group, the A.S.F. will also be supported by McCann Erickson Advertising.

"McCann Erickson, the largest of the Interpublic agencies in Australia, will service the domestic requirements of the A.S.F. and Intersoccer 4.

"Rik Booth, formerly Managing Director of The Sales Machine, will be co-ordinator of below the line activities, including development of national squad promotion and merchandising projects."

Sir Arthur George.

Perhaps by March, more details will be available but at present the main beneficiary of the program seems to be the national team.

Which, one hastens to add, is splendid. But Australian soccer's future will be decided by the strength of its various weekly competitions.

The oblique reference to the "development of the Philips League" only hints at the ASF's dissatisfaction with the present set-up.

This is one area which is crying out for urgent attention with or without direct link to the announced programme.

Philips Industries, through their massive sponsorship, have done their bit; now it's up to the League, the ASF and the clubs involved to rethink their position and future.

Although the official announcement did not clearly say this, one is left with the impression that the West Nally connection is limited to global TV marketing: otherwise it's hard to see the relevance of the European Cup, etc.

The importance of the West Nally link will no doubt emerge next year when their immense marketing expertise and TV outlets will come into play.

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Adelaide

— From Vic Migliaccio —

The 1980 Ampol Cup started at Hindmarsh Stadium on Monday night without the two Philips clubs.

The Cup will be contested by the top eight clubs which finished in that order in the 1979 winter league table.

The Cup will continue on this Friday, January 18 when Elizabeth will play Enfield Victoria at 7.30pm and the late match will be played between Azzurri and Campbelltown.

The 9.00pm match should be a classic. Azzurri, with Mario Corti back at the helms as a coach, plus with the signing of veteran former Juventus player Joe Baggio and the purchase of last year's Rothmans Medal winner Wally Bojczuk from Beograd, the club may start the new season on a high note.

Campbelltown will not be a push-over as coach Bob D'Ottavi is determined to make 1980 Campbelltown's year and with players like Zora Marusic, Aldo Rapone, Phil Russo, Dave Smith and Dave Chadwick, Azzuri could get a shock.

This is the full South Australian Ampol Cup draw:

Jan 18, 7.30pm - Elizabeth v Enfield; 9.00pm - Campbelltown v Azzurri.
Jan 21, 7.30pm - Polonia v Campbelltown; 9.00pm - Azzurri v Beograd.
Jan 25, 7.30pm - Cumberland v Elizabeth; 9.00pm - Enfield v Para Hills.
Jan 28, 7.30pm - Campbelltown v Enfield; 9.00pm - Elizabeth v Para Hills.
Feb.1, 7.30pm — Azzurri v Cumberland; 9.00pm - Beograd v Polonia.
Feb.4, 7.30pm — Azzurri v Elizabeth; 9.00pm - Polonia v Cumberland.
Feb.8, 7.30pm - Enfield v Beograd; 9.00pm - Para Hills v Campbelltown.
Feb.11, 7.30pm - Beograd v Para Hills; 9.00pm - Cumberland v Enfield.
Feb.15, 7.30pm - Azzurri v Polonia; 9.00pm - Elizabeth v Campbelltown.
Feb.18, 7.30pm - Polonia v Elizabeth; 9.00pm - Enfield v Azzurri.
Feb.22,7.30pm - Beograd v Campbelltown; 9.00pm - Para Hills v Cumberland.
Feb.25, 7.30pm - Azzurri v Para Hills; 9.00pm Cumberland v Campbelltown.
Feb.29, 7.30pm - Polonia v Enfield; 9.00pm - Beograd v Elizabeth.
Mar.3, 7.00pm - Semifinal - 1 v 3; 9.00pm - Semifinal - 2 v 4.
Mar.7, 8.00pm - FINAL.

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FROM THE PRESS BOX

A thing or two has happened since our last issue in 1979.

Sydney City, after playing a 1-1 draw against Brisbane City at Perry Park, won the Philips League play-off series, another major triumph for this amazingly successful club.

Within weeks, coach Gerry Chaldi and the club parted company, Chaldi joining West Adelaide as a fulltime manager-coach—his first total involvement in soccer.

□ □ □

Then there was the China-Taiwan tour of the Socceroos: seven matches for five wins and two draws.

Gutendorf, it seems, is getting the results he had promised even if, in the meantime, he is collecting critics and antagonists just as rapidly.

At an ASF meeting, in the heat of a debate, he was called a "Fuehrer" and many of those present weren't sure whether Rudi took this as an insult or an epithet.

But if he is not a fullblooded Fuehrer, he is certainly shaping up as soccer's Iron Chancellor, unwilling to compromise in his tough, professional methods.

□ □ □

Talking of coaches: Denis Adrigan was the only soccer personality to figure in the New Year's honor lists.

Adrigan was given a BEM (British Empire Medal) for his long service to the code, more often than not unpaid or vastly underpaid.

With a few fellow enthusiasts, he organised the first effective coaching association, forerunner of today's national Coaches' Federation.

Adrigan has not won any big tournaments and glittering prizes—but we know of many coaches who have worked far less for much more with more humble results.

□ □ □

Honors it was for soccer in another field. According to the Roy Morgan Research Centre public opinion poll (Bulletin,Dec.25)soccer is watched by more people on TV than Rugby (28%—23%).

I wonder how those TV tycoons and illiterati parading as commentators, who religiously believe in the monopolistic sanctity of rugby, will react to it.

Well, I guess they will just ignore it.

Soccer will gain official Establishment recognition when the English crown prince is allowed to marry a Catholic.

Bias? Of course. Prejudice, even hatred? Naturally. Ever likely to be admitted? Never.

Have YOU ever heard of anybody admitting he was biased?

For that matter, are we?

□ □ □

Which reminds me: Marconi's Ivo Prskalo was elected last November by the Australian Soccer Press Association as their Player of 1970.

This came as a great personal shock to me.

I do like Prskalo; I think he is a polished, clever performer and an asset to any team.

But, for me, he certainly wasn't either the best or the most constructive.

At times I wonder about the genuine, deep-rooted interest of my colleagues in the future of soccer.

They all pay fervent lip service to the credo that we must—yes,must—encourage local talent and build up Australian stars.

Then they turn around and elect an obscure Englishman as the NSW player of the year and give the nod to Prskalo, well past 30, a Yugoslav veteran.

Some encouragement.

□ □ □

Meanwhile, Olympic's bitter battle to stay in the PSL was lost; they stay relegated.

I must honestly admit that I wasn't too surprised at all.

For some reason, Olympic—perhaps out of panic or sheer despair—engaged an illustrious industrial consultant and PR company who then prepared the most atrociously flimsy, insultingly meaningless "submission" to sway the ASF.

After reading the elegantly set-out and expensively bound but bland, tedious "defence paper," I suspected that Olympic's goose was cooked.

□ □ □

Olympic's demise has sent heavy underground tremors through Sydney's large Greek community, most salvoes aimed at ASF chief Sir Arthur George, himself the son of Greek settlers.

To the very last minute, most Greek fans believed that the influential and powerful ASF chief will somehow save them.

But he couldn't and didn't; no doubt he felt it would have been a blatant case of godfatherly patronage.

Now, of course, the precedent has been established and heaven help any Sydney team which finds itself in the 13th or 14th place of the PSL in 1980.

Sir Arthur—and public opinion—will certainly demand similar relegation fate for the new victim and those who may wish to tamper with the due process of law will trigger off the greatest Greek uprising since the Revolt of the Colonels.

□ □ □

According to a Press report, Bill Curran, coach of the Australian under-16 team, blasted Rudi Gutendorf for his alleged "interference" in Singapore before the crucial final which Austrlia lost 1-3 to Iraq.

Curran was reported by a "reliable" daily newspaper of having had a go at Gutendorf for his criticism of the young players between the semifinal and final.

We couldn't reach Curran to comment — but we found Gutendorf.

"Sheer, absolute nonsense," he said. "These fabrications always come from Victoria, they're part of a vendetta against me.

"I didn't even speak with the boys after the semifinal, didn't even go near them.

"And when they lost in the final, I consoled them, told them they were still young, they did a splendid job, and so on.

"This newspaper story is quite unbelievable, vicious and malicious.

"Bill Curran had asked me to visit their camp but I didn't as I don't like to interfere with the preparations of coaches.

"I stayed at the Mandarin Hotel at all times, went only to see the games.

"Can you tell me why they invent stories like this?"

-Andrew Dettre

GUTENDORF FEARS CZECH DISASTER

"I have never made a more stupid mistake in my whole soccer career," national coach Rudi Gutendorf said this week.

"I should have never suggested or accepted an early season confrontation with Czechoslovakia.

"Now we can expect some severe hidings."

Gutendorf is quite prostrate about the prospects; he'd have to be a great actor to make you suspect that he's merely trying to sing the cheese out of the Czechs' mouth.

"We brought the wrong team to Australia at the wrong time. The Czechoslovaks will be close to their physical peak and they come with their strongest side.

"They are one of the top national teams in the world today, certainly a match for England, Germany, Holland or Argentina.

"And they're not coming here for a picnic."

Gutendorf said he should have realised that late January and early February were bad times to field a Socceroo team against a classy opponent.

"What I couldn't know was that the Philips League clubs won't enter the Ampol Cup in most States and start serious training only now.

"Also I didn't know that some of my key players, like Boden and Tansey, will be out of the country on holidays.

"So we'll have to face them with an unfit and untrained team.

"I made a stupid mistake. Just like last year when, without any proper preparations, we rushed into a match against New Zealand.

"Even in our top form we wouldn't have much of a chance really against Czechoslovakia; now I fear the very worst."

His long sad face sagging and even longer than normal, Gutendorf is bracing himself against the might of the Czech armada.

He will have a 10-day training camp, in Sydney and hope that the players respond in body and spirit.

"But I can't work them hard because I would crush them," he said.

"Also, during the camp, I have to release the players for the Red Star match.

"The effort they will put into that could flatten them even further."

Rudi Gutendorf

With one or two question marks still pencilled in after some names, this is the Socceroo squad for the three internationals against Czechoslovakia:

G. Woodhouse, S. Perry, A. Henderson, I. Prskalo, J. Rooney, P. Sharne, J. Kosmina, M. Jankovics, J. Coyne, T. Cumming, J. Nyskohus, G. Cole, P. O'Connor, R. Echeverria, A. Bertogna, J. Picioane, R. Russell, E. Krncevic, J. Campbell, V. Bozanic, M. Crook, K. Mullen.

Garside Park out

The Ampol Cup fixtures scheduled to start next week have been thrown into confusion following the closure of Garside Park until the beginning of the competition proper in March or April.

The NSW Federation is likely to announce a replacement venue this week.

Because of the switch, even the start of the Cup may change — from January 30 to January 27.

Following years of constant use (and abuse), Parramatta City Council has decided to upgrade the surface of Garside and during the off season has spent about $6,000 which will substantially improve the pitch for many years to come.

The surface of the pitch has been heavily manured and top-soiled in some places up to 18 inches deep.

Council also replaced the outmoded galvanised iron (mostly rusted out) water system with a modern 2 in.copper system which has been in use for the last few months.

In order to give a chance to the grass to grow properly the Council engineer has decided to close the oval which of course caught the Federation by surprise.

Council also have made some adjusting work on the floodlights which will improve lighting in night fixtures.

The NSW Soccer Federation is still searching for venues to play the matches but most Ampol Cup fixtures are expected to be played at Seymour Park in Sutherland Shire.

A council spokesman said this week that the Council would give consideration to the Ampol Cup semifinals and final to be played at Garside later in March if the Federation requested it.

In another decision by Council, Yugal Soccer Club has been banned from using any grounds in the Parramatta district until a bill of $200 is paid by the Club to council.

The money is for damage Yugal supporters are alleged to have caused to the canteen at Garside last year at a "home" match.

Council has tried on several occasions to get the damage bill met by Yugal, without success.

— C. Spiteri

Bayern in August ?

Bayern Munchen, the most famous of all West German clubs, may visit Australia in August.

After a couple of lean seasons, they are once again leading the West German Bundesliga.

Their No.1 star is winger Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, voted by the Press as Europe's second best player last year, behind only Kevin Keegan.

But their playmaker dynamo is the bearded rebel, Paul Breitner who, after a spell with Real Madrid, in 1979 returned to Bayern, via Braunschweig.

Other current stars are Dieter Hoeness, brother of ex-international Uli (who is now manager of the team), Augenthaler and the Yugoslav Oblak.

In 1974, 1975 and 1976, they won the European Champions' Cup three times in a row, against Atletico Madrid, Leeds and St.Etienne.

Coached by the Hungarian Pal Csernai, Bayern have every chance of visiting Australia as the 1979-1980 Bundesliga champions.

Sec.Div. play-off

— By Charles Spiteri —

A decision will be made next week by the NSW Soccer Federation where to hold the three-way play-off to promote a second team from third to second division.

Third division champions North Bankstown has already been promoted to second division and the play-off will be between relegated teams West Ryde and Port Hacking and the team next in line from third division, Campbelltown.

All three teams have been awaiting a date and place for the play-offs, but the Federation has found some difficulties in getting grounds at this time of the year.

Campbelltown, who finished second to North Bankstown in third division last season has had an intensive preparation program for this round-robin play-off series and should be favourite to win the battle for promotion.

Coach Alan Street wasted no time and started light training three weeks before Christmas.

Since then he has intensified training and the side will go into battle in tip-top condition.

He retained all the players of last year and has planned a series of "friendlies" to sharpen the players into match conditioning.

The first will be on Sunday morning when they play Melita Eagles at Rangers Road. Melita this season is being coached by former Australian international Atti Abonyi.

A week later, (on January 27) Campbelltown will tackle Wollongong United who missed out in playing State League this season after losing a two-way play-off with North Sydney Inter at the end of the season.

Campbelltown also plans to go to Bulli on February 11 taking two teams for friendlies and will entertain Yagoona in three games at Rangers Road on February 24.

These friendlies will take place as long as they don't clash with the dates the Federation will announce for the play-off series.

Campbelltown this year will also play in the Umbro Cup series and in their first match will meet Gladesville at their ground Rangers Road.

— C. Spiteri

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ENGLAND—BUT NOT QUITE.....

It seems that we may have to wait for our second centenary to see the full England team in action in Australia.

For over a year the ASF has hoped that on June 1, 1980, at the Sydney Cricket Ground, it will be able to stage a full international between the two countries.

This hope has now vanished. England will still send a representative team, may even be classified as a full national side — but the "real" England will be on its way to Italy to take part in the European Championship finals (June 11-22).

ASF president Sir Arthur George said earlier this month that England manager Ron Greenwood had pledged to send a strong team, with all players in international class.

But there won't be any Keegan, Brooking, Wilkins, Woodcock, Barnes and others in the squad.....

GAME VICTORIA DOWNS RED STAR

—From Jock Stephen—

Bad weather did cut into the attendance at Olympic Park, Melbourne last Saturday night but the reduced crowd of 9,026 saw a fine performance by Len McKendry's Victorian boys.

The game was played slowly during the settling in period on a heavy surface due to a downpour in the morning.

Petrovic and Savic were the bright spots in a quiet opening, with Yzendoorn, Davidson and Gardiner in great cover work with Kokoska.

Gardiner stopped Petrovic in a dangerous move in the fifth minute, and Yzendoorn prevented a Savic foray by giving away a corner.

Victoria came out of their shell with good soccer by putting pressure on the Red Star defence.

Paton was fouled outside the box as he was surging through, and Cole missed narrowly from a freekick.

Rooney's shadow-Krmpotic was spoken to twice by referee Mellings for rugged tackles during Victoria's attacks.

Petrovic entertained with a classic dribbling display at one corner flag.

This interlude was noted by the West Indian cricket team, who were guests of the Victorian Soccer Federation, as the highlight of the game.

Repcic, in a left wing attack looked dangerous, with Banovic saving superbly.

Tommy Cumming was quiet during the first half and it was no surprise when he added his touch of wizardry which made the openings for two very good goals.

Paton scored in the 53rd minute, with Rooney pushing to Cumming who beat three defenders before cutting back for Paton.

Red Star then made two team changes: Filipovic for Savic, and Jurovski for Jovin.

The damage had been done, and even though Filipovic did extremely well, the loss of Savic did not help Red Star.

Miletovic got a yellow card for upending Cole when beaten as Cole raced towards the box.

Red Star struggled valiantly to redeem their reputation with Filipovic and Petrovic showing up well.

Filipovic hit the side netting with a great drive at the 78th minute, with Cole revelling in the southerly drizzle at the other end.

Persistence was rewarded for Red Star when Filipovic cracked in a great shot which Banovic diverted on to the post with seven minutes to go.

Victoria's best three players — and I do not wish to be unfair to the rest were Yzendoorn, Christopoulos and Cumming.

Red Star's best trio was; Savic, Petrovic and Nikolic.

VICTORIA	**2(0)**
RED STAR	**1(0)**

Victoria: Banovic, Yzendoorn, Gardiner, Kokoska, Davidson, Christopoulos, Campbell J. (Piciaone 80 min), Rooney, Cumming (Tront 80min.) Cole, Paton (Mitten 67min.). Coach: Len McKendry.

Red Star: Stojanovic, Krmpotic, Jurisic, Miletovic, Nikolic (Stevanovic 70 min.) Jovin (Jurovski 55min.) Blagojevic, Milosavijevic, Petrovic, Savic (Filipovic 55 min.) Repcic. Coach: Stevan Ostojic.

Referee: Stuart Mellings, Official attendance: 9,026.

NEXT WEEK:

Rudi Gutendorf, the brilliant but controversial and abrasive national coach will leave Australia in 1981 or 1982. "I cannot stay too long in a country, I make too many enemies too fast," he says.

"I speak my mind frankly, I step on too many toes. Only one major challenge could keep me here: to build an Australian Cosmos, a big successful pro club. But I'd need a budget of $2,500,000 for that."

In next week's* SOCCER WORLD *read a special, no-punches-pulled interview with Gutendorf about his ideas and 1980 plans.

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Many big changes during the 1970s

— By Andrew Dettre —

Having entered the 1980s, it is only sensible to see what soccer achieved in Australia in the 1970s.

If there was one area where very considerable progress could be seen it was in the field of venues.

Soccer still has no national stadium but at least good to acceptable grounds are now available in most major cities.

Newcastle's International Sports Centre, Canberra's Bruce Stadium, Melbourne's Olympic Park and the two Adelaide grounds,Olympic Sportsfield and Hindmarsh are owned by state or local government authorities but serve soccer well.

Brisbane's Perry Park is a Queensland Federation venue and excellent by Australian standards.

In Sydney two clubs, Marconi and St.George have built and developed their own compact stadiums; both have adequate capacities for their present needs and the St.George venue is shaping up as one of the classiest in Australia.

Of the grounds used for PSL matches, only Middle Park, Wentworth Park and the developing Toongabbie ground remain below par.

If soccer can obtain the rebuilt and smart Marks Field in Sydney (and Sydney City are more than hopeful), the ground situation will improve even further especially once the Lambert Park facelift has been completed.

But this applies mainly to PSL clubs. Below them, the position has changed little.

Most of the State League clubs still use grounds one thin cut above the paddock level with "amenities" either primitive or non-existent.

Perhaps the trend towards improvements which started in the 1970s will spill over into the new decade and we will live to see the day when the majority of senior matches are staged at civilised venues.

The national league, a dream stretching back into the 1960s. was finally born in the 1970s.

With this, soccer has become the first football code in Australia to organise a quasi-national league competition; quasi because Western Australia and Tasmania, for various reasons,have yet to be included.

Philips boss Herman Huyer.

But even this would not have been possible without the very strong financial involvement of Philips Industries, the Netherlands-based multinational electronics giants whose tab for the first three years must have approached or even exceeded $750,000.

If the Philips League has any real shortcomings, it is probably the fault of the founding fathers.

In their haste to start the project before its opponents could unite and block the move, they knocked together a patchy structure without adequate research and planning.

Even the most ardent and loyal backers of the PSL admit that the League will have to be rebuilt and reshaped, probably along American lines; it will have to acquire some muscle to control its own destiny and a much stronger and broader administration to achieve penetration in the Australian sporting market.

This is a task which should not be put off too long or else the safety of the whole venture is threatened.

In the 1970s, the national team gained more prominence than would have been possible even a few short years ago.

When in 1965, at Jim Bayutti's stubborn pleading, Australia took part in its first World Cup elimination series, this newspaper was just about the only public supporter of the idea.

Only two newsmen accompanied the team to Cambodia: Soccer World's Lou Gautier and AAP's Bill Allan.

But in the 1970s the World Cup idea gained momentum; by the end of the decade the Socceroos became well known nationally and even internationally.

In 1973, on the team's third attempt, came the reward: Australia reached the finals of the 1974 World Cup in West Germany.

A repeat attempt in 1977 failed rather badly; now a fresh campaign is being mounted for 1982.

Joe Vlasits was the first real mentor of the national team, following some fleetingly brief spells by others and Vlasits missed out in 1969 by a single goal, mainly due to inept administrative decisions in the preparations.

His successor, Rale Rasic also reigned for four years; he did lead his team to the finals in 1974 but gradually fell out with the ASF and, at the peak of his triumph, had to go.

Then came a few years of chaos: Brian Green took over and a few months later lost his job because of a stupid indiscretion which led to a court case.

For months the team had no coach at all; then the job was given to Jimmy Shoulder, just 28, freshly arrived from England—despite his candid admission that never in his life had he been in charge of any senior soccer team.

Shoulder was bound to fail. Vlasits went after results relying on his fatherly approach and strong personal motivation; Rasic demanded discipline, tight organisation and massive logistic support from officialdom.

Shoulder, the proverbial nice guy, had little going for him; he lacked experience, strength and know-how. His inevitable failure was also a terrible indictment of those who had selected him in the first place.

In 1978 the West German Rudi Gutendorf took over and he's still very much in command.

At least as controversial and outspoken as Rasic was, Gutendorf is vastly experienced and highly intelligent in matters of soccer(and other things) and could create a team good enough to win its way into the finals in 1982.

But whether he does or not depends largely on the ASF and the States tidying up the mess now governing the status and availability of the national players.

Ex-World Cupper Rale Rasic.

Funds will be plentiful for the scheme, Sir Arthur George has made sure of that; it's the old problem of "club or country" which has to be resolved in order to surge forward with the Socceroos.

In soccer, unlike in swimming, athletics or weightlifting, standards cannot be measured with absolute accuracy.

So it's not surprising that fans—and not just in Australia but all over the world—engage in heated debates about the level of modern play.

Soccer in Australia underwent major changes in the 1970s; it became faster, more athletic and perhaps less sophisticated.

But has it also improved, when compared with world standards?

The answer must be a cautious yes, especially since the start of the Philips League.

Whereas even in the 1960s most visiting overseas teams toyed with the Australian opposition, in the 1970s some remarkable results were born: Santos 2-2, Bulgaria 2-2, Uruguay 2-0, Chile 0-0, Benfica 2-2, USSR three draws, Bologna 3-0, Arsenal 3-1 and Cosmos 2-1.

Purists will claim that soccer in the 1960s was superior, that there was more artistry and flair in the game.

Certainly, Australia had one super-team, in Prague, whose brilliant standards have never been surpassed—but the rest were no better and probably weaker than today's top teams.

Even if one could accept the fact that Sydney and Melbourne standards have not improved much, the same cannot be said of Adelaide, Newcastle and Brisbane.

In one area, however, the 1970s produced little change: our coaching is still a chaotic and haphazard affair.

Many of the leading coaches are in fact only retired players, working without the benefit of intensive, formal training demanded—and provided—in Holland, Italy, Spain, West Germany and many other countries.

This is not entirely the fault of the coaches: the clubs, on the whole, have never stipulated such preconditions for them.

In order to expand the base and the hinterland of the game, our coaching organisations have been almost forced to hand out badges and certificates to just about anybody who bothered to apply for one.

We can only hope that the critical yardsticks will tighten in the 1980s and that teams—especially junior teams—will not be suffering for ever from lack of proper expertise.

Towards the middle of the 1970s some clubs began to pay increasing attention to the needs of streamlined, efficient management but by the end of the decade, only one reached respectable levels: Newcastle.

Almost all others, even in the PSL, are still run by volunteers and amateurs (even if some of these amateurs do get paid.)

Even the appointment of salaried, fulltime administrators in some cases has made little difference: with the exception of Newcastle none of the other clubs have yet made a solid, concentrated move to build an organisation which could compete for the public's entertainment dollars.

Yet this is inevitable: without it the clubs won't have even the remotest chance of recouping their ever increasing losses, now cushioned by sponsorship contributions and clubhouse profits.

The sensitive and often confusing "ethnic issue" also remained unsolved in the 1970s: in many quarters it even became a red herring, a political catchcry instead of the subject of a serious and sincere investigation.

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SLICKERS TOY WITH MARKSISM

Sydney's old hunting ground, the Marks Field at Kensington, will soon return to the fold—probably as the home of Sydney City.

Invariably associated with soccer's golden years—and the presence of the great Prague team—Marks Field has been out of commission for some two years, getting a long overdue rebuild.

Now the playing area has been returfed and pushed closer to the circular stand at the southern end while a roof is being erected over the repaired and repainted old wooden seats.

Brand new, modern dressing rooms have also been built.

Sydney City have tendered for the use of the ground—along with the NSW Federation—and are hopeful of getting it, through their impeccable contacts with Town Hall which, unofficially, has taken the club under its patronage early 1979.

If, however, their bid fails, the Slickers will probably play at the Sportsground, which is closest to their followers.

Wentworth Park, soon to undergo major reconstruction, won't be available for most of 1980.

On the players' front, Sydney City are clearly going for youth.

In the closed season they signed John Spanos, 18, his brother Chris 16 and Graham Fletcher 15.

Of course, they have also acquired, at a transfer fee believed to have been close to $15,000, plus Mark Trenter, Newcastle's "wonder boy," Ken Boden, rated by Gutendorf as his most valuable player.

Boden's style, flair and skill should blend easily and swiftly with that of Sydney City.

The Spanos brothers are rated as great natural talents.

John toured Paraguay last year with the Young Australia team; a defender, he has also appeared for his state, Western Australia.

Brother Chris, a midfielder, was in Singapore recently with the national under-16 team.

Young Fletcher comes from Wollongong, having represented NSW in the national under-15 titles in Perth last year.

In order to unearth a flow of young talent, Sydney City are setting up an extensive scouting network, something all clubs should have done ages ago.

Missing from the starting line-up could be Ian Souness and Alan Kershaw, both back in Britain.

Souness is getting married in March and may decide to stay in England while Kershaw is reportedly keen to go to Sweden.

Sydney City have abandoned the idea of bringing back their colored Portuguese winger, Manecas, because of the extremely high costs involved.

Manecas played for Hakoah a few seasons ago but opinion among fans about his worth was sharply divided.

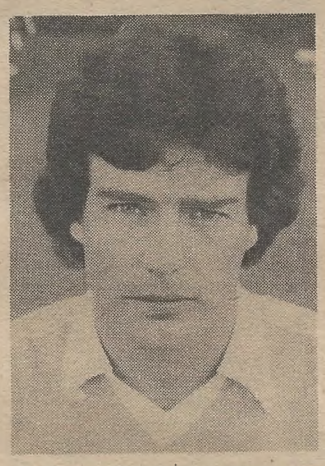
Not only did Gerry Chaldi leave City (for West Adelaide) but his assistant and former skipper Henry Mowbray is also returning home to Scotland next month.

New player-coach Eddie Thomson will be assisted by Jimmy Hughes who was in charge of the reserve team last term.

The club also has a new full-time soccer secretary in Peter Russell.

In the 1967-1972 period he played with Corinthians, then joined Sydney City as an official.

Russell will be in charge also of promotions and publicity, a task last year carried out by John Warren.



Alan Kershaw, now in Britain, flirting with Sweden.

Reaney brings more class to Newcastle

— By Myles Hay —

Colin Curran and Paul Reaney will form the most experienced fullback pairing in the PSL this season.

Curran, the local hero will be joined by former Leeds United defender Reaney to stiffen the Newcastle KB United backline.

Coach Alan Vest made an overseas trip during the off-season and captured the prize services of Reaney, who played in 745 matches with the great Leeds United side.

For the past season, Reaney has been playing for Bradford City in the English Fourth division.

Reaney, who has played for England and has the distinction of winning an F.A. Cup medal with Leeds, arrived in Newcastle last week with his wife and family.

Like Curran, he is in his mid-30s and also has that remarkable enthusiasm for soccer which sheds years to set an inspiring example to younger players.

There will be a "new look" about Newcastle's front line this season.

Lack of height in the goalmouth during attacking thrusts nullified many moves, but the signing of Mark Trenter from Sydney City and David Deakin of the Townsville-Kern United club has changed this situation.

Both are over six feet tall and they are eager to create the right impression before Newcastle's huge crowds.

Trenter came to Newcastle as part of the transfer deal which involved Ken Boden moving to Sydney City.

Deakin was noticed by coach Vest when Newcastle took part in a challenge match against Townsville at the end of the season.

Deakin formerly played with Ringwood in the Victoria State League before travelling north to Queensland.

Last year Newcastle fielded the smallest attack in the PSL with Graham Heys, Ken Boden and Peter Tredinnick often dwarfed by tall defenders.

The competition for first team places will be extremely fierce and coach Vest has added promising local youngsters Richard Endacott and Howard Tredinnick to his squad.

Goal hungry attacking Edgeworth United player David Kamasz is another front line player vying for a regular place.

Kamasz was the leading goalscorer in the Northern NSW first division competition last year.

SEVEN MAY BE LUCKY NUMBER

—From Peter Kunz—

Canberra City have signed seven new players for the 1980 season.

Still, quality and not quantity seemed to be the maxim of the club directors, in a calculated attempt to wipe out the "tail-ender" tag from a team which has valiantly sought, over three seasons, to match "front office" rewards with tangible soccer results.

Three talented, young O'Shea brothers have been signed from St.George.

Michael, 19, has been mainly a defender and has represented Australia at under 19 level.

Robert, 21, has been the most versatile, having played at central striker, sweeper, midfielder and finally at left fullback, probably his ideal position.

John, 22, is basically a midfielder and won a full international "cap" against Greece.

However, possibly the most dramatic catch of the year will be the "terrible twin strikers" from State League club, Monaro: Sebastian Giampaolo, 20 and Walter Valeri, 26.

Giampaolo's sweet skills, pace and shooting ability make him one of the most promising youngsters in Australia while Valeri, a regular goal-getter, also has enormous starting speed and mobility.

The combined transfer fee demand by Monaro is $52,000 and is now subject of a NSW Federation appeals hearing.

Two New Zealanders have also signed.

Richard Wilson, 23, an Arts graduate, is the New Zealand national team goalkeeper and has come to the PSL in order to hone his skill.

Recently he toured the Middle East and Europe with his national team and also gained valuable experience as the understudy to English goalie Phil Parkes with the North American champion club, Vancouver Whitecaps.

The second Kiwi signed is Duncan Cole, 21, a midfielder, also a national team member and named as his country's best under 21 player last season.

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APIA

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GOODBYE APIA AND HELLO LEICHHARDT...

APIA is starting the season with massive changes: a new name, a new ground and a new coach.

To meet an undertaking given to the PSL early last year, APIA has changed its name to Leichhardt Soccer Club.

At one stage some of the club officials had considered legal action to stave off this move but then compliance won the day.

Later this month, after the return of President Nick Papallo from Italy, the APIA Supporters Club will be asked to accept the change.

The same gathering will have its chance to meet the new manager-coach, Willie Wallace and the new players: Phil O'Connor (St.George), Colin McAusland (Melita) and a Dundee junior, John Bradley.

Wallace, who was due to arrive this week from Scotland—where he was assistant manager to Dundee— will take over from Ray Richards.

Richards was offered a position with the club on the administrative side but declined.

So the new assistant coach will be old APIA stalwart Cliff Van Blerk.

Leichhardt will return to its old ground, Lambert Park which is still undergoing rebuilding.

The new playing surface is first class; the Park is also getting new turnstiles, modern dressing rooms, toilets and canteens.

Six-foot concrete slabs will be laid around the ground at the foot of the "hills" where, in the past, even the briefest shower created mudheaps.

The small stand will be repaired though, for the time being, not enlarged.

The club has to restrict its spending on Lambert Park because of other heavy commitments.

The APIA social club expansions will start next month, costing a cool $1,500,000 while land had to be purchased next to the club for some $300,000.

The long-planned Italian tour by APIA in the off-season fell through.

Peter Stone, again likely to be Leichhardt's mainstay and keen to return to the Socceroo fold.

"Only about eight or nine of our players were able to make the trip so the club decided that they either all go or none; we didn't want to tour with 10 borrowed players," spokesman Tony Raciti said this week.

"But our former coach, Ray Richards, in a private capacity, still took over to Italy a mixed team, calling it a Sydney XI.

"Only Rod Skellern from Leichhardt went with this team, as he had earlier made extensive travel arrangements and we didn't want to inconvenience him."

So far none of the players of 1979 have left the club though four are on the transfer list: Turnbull ($10,000), Carruthers ($5,000), Vernon ($5,000) and Samuels (6,000).

Turnbull, keen to join Blacktown, has appealed against the size of the fee while Eric Carruthers, the former Leeds star, is hopeful that Wallace, an old buddy, will take him oft the list.

Brilliant young Socceroos goalie Greg Woodhouse has returned from England where he had trained with West Bromwich Albion since December.

NSW FIELDS BIG GUNS

Star striker Ken Boden is out of the NSW team to meet Red Star Belgrade — he is still holidaying in England.

This is the NSW squad coached by Leo Baumgartner: G. Woodhouse(Leichhardt), M. Fraser(St.George), P. Brogan(Marconi), P. Degney (Marconi), I. Prskalo (Marconi), T. Henderson (Marconi), M. Jankovics (Marconi), E. Krncevic (Marconi),P. Sharne (Marconi), J. Stevenson (Sydney City), P. Beggs (St.George),P. O'Connor (St.George), P. Raskopoulos (Marconi),J. Davies (St.George), K. Mullen (Sydney City), I. Hunter (Blacktown),G. Jennings (Olympic), P. Kay (St.George).

AMPOL

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OVERSEAS BRIEFS

• *The little known Buenos Aires club Argentinos Juniors toured Europe late December and early January. Their main attraction: Diego Maradona, the new South American superstar.*

□ □ □

• *Charlie George, battling against injuries with his club Southampton, is considering a permanent transfer to an American club.*

□ □ □

• *Hans Krankl, the Austrian sharpshooter, is certain to leave Barcelona. Meanwhile the Catalan club is demanding a $30,000 compensation from the Austrian FA because Krankl suffered an injury while playing for his country against Portugal.*

□ □ □

• *Real Madrid's speedy winger Juanito was judged to be the best Spanish player of 1979 while Gijon's Miera was voted to be the best coach of the season.*

□ □ □

• *Vujadin Boskov, Real Madrid's Yugoslav coach, wasn't too polite at a coaching conference held at Italy's Coverciano. He told his colleagues that Italian soccer was still too passive, negative and boring.*

□ □ □

• *Penarol of Montevideo has won its 25th Uruguay title at the end of 1979.*

□ □ □

• *Trevor Whymark, who will rejoin the Vancouver Whitecaps in March, has signed for Derby on a three-month contract.*

□ □ □

• *Austria's international goalie Koncilia has left the Belgian Anderlecht and returned to Vienna.*

□ □ □

• *Israel's new national coach is an Englishman, Mansell, aged 52.*

□ □ □

• *Cosmos have placed on the transfer list three of their stars, Bogicevic, Marinho and Tueart who will follow the already departed Etherington, Formoso and Ryan. At the same time they have signed Brazil's World Cup stopper Oscar and the brilliant Paraguayan teenager, Julio Romero.*

□ □ □

• *According to a poll by the Belgrade daily "Politik," these were the best Yugoslav players of 1970: Susic (Sarayevo), Petrovic (Red Star), Slikovic (Velez), Vujovic (Hajduk), Zajek (Dynamo) and Surjak (Hajduk).*

□ □ □

• *Kevin Keegan has announced that in June, when his contract expires, he will leave Hamburg. Three clubs are in the race for the superstar: Italy's Juventus and AC Milan and Spain's Barcelona.*

□ □ □

• *Belgium, by beating Scotland 3-1 in Glasgow, have qualified for the finals of the 1980 European Championship (June 11-22 in Italy), ahead of Austria.*

□ □ □

• *Borussia Dortmund, which was keen to sign French wing star Didier Six from Marseille, has dropped the idea and is after the Yugoslav Susic.*

□ □ □

• *Arsenal have signed Red Star Belgrade fullback Niki Jovanovic who was also sought by Bayern Munchen.*

□ □ □

• *In a charity match in Dortmund, the local Borussia beat a World XI 3-2, in front of 31,000 fans, raising $260,000 for the UNICEF Children's Fund. The World XI had such stars as Beckenbauer, Keegan, Cruyff, Krol, Blochin and Pezzey.*

□ □ □

• *The Turkish Press wasn't impressed with the West German team which beat Turkey 2-0. "Bonhof and his colleagues played like elderly gentlemen," wrote the daily "Milliyet."*

□ □ □

• *These are the 8 finalists for the European Championship in Italy in June: England, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Greece, Spain, Holland, W. Germany and the host Italy.*

□ □ □

• *Bruno Pezzey, Frankfurst's brilliant Austrian stopper, is likely to play for a leading Italian club after July.*

□ □ □

• *Andras Torocsik, the young Hungarian star who had suffered a broken thigh in a car accident in 1979, has resumed training and will play again soon.*

□ □ □

• *Honved, leaders of the Hungarian first division at the halfway break, are touring Argentina where they will play 8 matches.*

□ □ □

• *The prestigious Polish sports daily, Przeglad Sportowy, has ranked Europe's national teams according to the merit of their 1979 results. This is their order: 1. West Germany 2. England 3. Yugoslavia 4. Austria 5. Belgium 6. Italy 7. Holland 8. Czechoslovakia 9. Poland 10. Hungary 11. USSR 12. East Germany 13. France.....*

□ □ □

• *Rainer Bonhof, Valencia's West German star, is certain to leave Spain at the end of June. Hamburg is keen to repatriate him, once they lose Kevin Keegan.*

□ □ □

• *Following Morocco's two defeats against Algir in the Olympic elimination series — 5-1 and 3-0 — the entire executive of the Moroccan FA has resigned.*

□ □ □

WORLD NEWS

KEEGAN AGAIN EUROPE'S NO.1

Kevin Keegan, the dynamic English midfield star of SV Hamburg, is Europe's "Player of the Year" for 1979 — for the second time running.

In a Europe-wide poll among leading soccer writers and conducted by the Paris-based "France Football", Keegan won almost unopposed: he gained 118 points out of a possible total of 130.

Each writer was asked to name his five top players in order of preference.

Of the 26 first places, Keegan collected 18.

This was the full result of the "France Football" poll:

1.	Keegan(Hamburg)	118
2.	Rummenigge(Bayern)	52
3.	Krol(Ajax)	41
4.	Kaltz(Hamburg)	27
5.	Platini(Saint-Etienne)	23
6.	Rossi(Perugia)	16
7.	Brady(Arsenal)	13
	Francis(Nott.Forest)	13
9.	Boniek(Widzew Lodz)	8
	Nehoda(Duk.Prague)	8
11.	Dalglish(Liverpool)	7
	Simonsen(Barcelona)	7
13.	Breitner(Bayern)	6
	Kist(AZ67)	6
15.	Susic(Sarajevo)	5
	Krankl(Barcelona)	5
	Woodcock(Cologne)	5
	Rep(Saint-Etienne)	5
19.	Stielike(Real Madrid)	4
20.	Tresor(Marseille)	3
21.	Tahamata(Ajax)	2
	Pezzey(Frankfurt)	2
	Alves(Paris-S.V.)	2
	McQueen(Man.Utd)	2
	Causio(Juventus)	2
	de Kerkhof(PSV)	2
27.	Asensi(Barcelona)	1
	Brooking(West Ham.)	1
	Hellstroem(Kaisersl.)	1
	H.Muller(Stuttgart)	1
	Panenka(Boh.Prag.)	1
	Schachner(Austria)	1

Keegan is only the fourth player ever to win the poll more than once.

The others before him were Di Stefano (1957,1959), Cruyff (1971,1973,1974) and Beckenbauer (1972,1976).

Kevin Keegan, Europe's No.1 star again...

Helmut Schon

REVIE BAN IS LIFTED

Don Revie, former England manager, won his High Court appeal against the English FA's 10-year ban preventing him from taking up a managerial appointment in England.

However, Revie's reputation wasn't enhanced during the hearing.

The judge called him "greedy, selfish and deceitful" and referred to his conduct in breaking his England managerial contract as a "notorious example of disloyalty, discourtesy and a disgraceful breach of duty."

Harsh words — but Revie won his appeal which will enable him to take up a $20,000 a year job as consultant with his former club, Leeds though he will finish his term in the United Arab Emirates.

The High Court declared the ban on Revie invalid because some members of the FA Commission proved to be clearly biased against him.

SCHON:"TOO MUCH MONEY"

Helmut Schon, the retired West German national team supremo, is certain to know his soccer.

In 1966 he took his team to the World Cup finals, in 1972 he won the European Championship and in the 1974 the World Cup with his great "Beckbauer-Elf."

Earlier this month Schon addressed a gathering of eminent coaches and soccer officials at the Swiss Federal Sports College at Magglingen (Macolin)..

Some of Schon's observations:

"The most worrying aspect of today's soccer is that nobody seems to plan for the future.

"People and corporations alien to the game exert too much influence on soccer.

"With this, commercialisation of soccer continues.

"Some matches are little short of gladiatorial struggles.

"On the field and off it, brutality appears to pre-dominate.

"There is far too much money in soccer nowadays. The stakes are too big, everybody is after instant results and this will lead to a dimished appeal of the game.

"We have far too many 'hard working' players and not enough real 'players.'

"Nobody is prepared to accept responsibility for bad results and so the original beauty of the game is fast vanishing."

Schon said the game was lacking great personalities of the calibre of Pele, Didi, Charlton, Beckbauer, Cruyff, Di Stefano, Puskas and others.

"Today's game is characterised by speed and stamina. Fritz Walter, captain of the 1954 world champion German team, couldn't keep up with the pace of the modern game."

Schon claims that the only solution is a better and revised training method.

The basis of this is heavier concentration on the technical aspects.

"Young players must have the best possible coaches," he said.

"In the interest of soccer we must abandon the old practice where young talents are coached by poorly educated and under-qualified coaches."

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